In the Claims

1. (Original) A method of providing an extension to at least one end of a signal, the extension being formed by the steps of:

defining a point at the at least one end of the signal;

determining a length of the signal starting from the defined point;

duplicating the determined length in a point symmetric fashion about the defined point so as to provide an extension of the signal beyond the at least one end.

2. (Original) A method of providing an extension to at least one end of a signal according to claim 1, wherein the signal extension is provided at both ends of the signal.

3. (Original) A method of providing an extension to at least one end of a signal of finite length according to claim 1, wherein the signal includes at least one set of data from the group of data sets including:

image data set;

speech data set;

acoustic data set.

4. (Original) A method of extending a signal having at least a first end, the method comprising the steps of:

defining a symmetry point at least adjacent the first end;

determining a portion of the signal adjacent to the defined symmetry point;

duplicating the determined portion of the signal in a point symmetric fashion about the defined symmetry point; and

extending the signal from the defined symmetry point using the duplicated portion of the signal.

5. (Original) A method of extending a signal according to claim 4, wherein the defined symmetry point is at the first end of the signal.

6. (Original) A method of extending a signal according to claim 4, wherein the defined symmetry point is adjacent the first end of the signal and on the signal side of the first end.

7. (Original) A method of extending a signal according to claim 4, wherein the defined symmetry point is adjacent the first end of the signal and external thereto.

8. (Original) A method of extending a signal according to claim 4, wherein the signal is a digital signal comprising a sequence of discrete digital samples, the sequence having first and second ends with first and final discrete digital samples at the first and final ends.

9. (Original) A method of extending a signal according to claim 8, wherein the defined symmetry point is located at the first end of the sequence and has a value at least close to the value of the discrete digital sample that is at the first end of the sequence.

10. (Original) A method of extending a signal according to claim 8, wherein the symmetry point is adjacent the first end of the sequence.

11. (Original) A method of extending a signal according to claim 8, wherein the symmetry point is located external of the first end of the sequence and has a value the same as a value of an adjacent discrete digital sample.

12. (Original) A method of extending a signal according to claim 8, wherein the symmetry point is located external of the first end of the sequence by an amount equal to half of a period between the discrete digital samples in the sequence.

13. (Original) A method of extending a signal according to claim 12, wherein the value of the defined symmetry point is zero.

14. (Original) A method of extending a signal according to claim 4, wherein the signal has first and second ends and the extension is provided at both ends of the signal.

15. (Original) A method of extending a signal according to claim 4, wherein the length of the signal is determined along a horizontal axis of a desired domain in which the signal is available.

16. (Original) A method of extending a signal according to claim 15, wherein the length of the signal is determined in a time domain.

17. (Original) A method of extending a signal according to claim 15, wherein the length of the signal is determined in a frequency domain.

18. (Original) A method of extending a signal according to claim 4, wherein the signal includes at least one set of data from the group of data sets including:

image data set;

speech data set;

acoustic data set.

Claims 19-35 have been cancelled.

36. (Original) Apparatus for providing an extension to at least one end of a signal, the apparatus comprising:

receiving means for receiving the signal;

definition means coupled to the receiving means for defining a point at the at least one end of the signal;

determining means having a first input coupled to the receiving means and a second input coupled to the definition means for determining a length of the signal starting from the defined point and an output;

duplicating means having an input coupled to the output of the determining means for duplicating the determined length in a point symmetric fashion about the defined point and an output at which to provide an extension of the signal beyond the at least one end.

37. (Original) Apparatus for providing an extension to at least one end of a signal according to claim 36, wherein the signal extension is provided at both ends of the signal.

38. (Original) Apparatus for providing an extension to at least one end of a signal according to either claim 36 or claim 37, wherein the signal includes at least one set of data from the group of data sets including:

image data set;

speech data set;

acoustic data set

39. (Original) Apparatus for extending a signal having at least a first end, the apparatus comprising:

defining means having an input for receiving the signal and an output for providing a defined symmetry point at least adjacent the first end of the signal;

determining means having an input coupled to the output of the defining means and an output for providing a determined portion of the signal adjacent to the defined symmetry point;

duplicating means having an input coupled to the output of the determining means and an output for providing a duplicate of the determined portion of the signal in a point symmetric fashion about the defined symmetry point;

extending means having an input coupled to the output of the duplicating means and an output for providing an extended signal using the duplicated portion of the signal.

40. (Original) Apparatus for extending a signal according to claim 39, wherein the symmetry point is at the first end of the signal.

41. (Original) Apparatus for extending a signal according to claim 39, wherein the symmetry point is adjacent the first end of the signal and on the signal side of the first end.

42. (Original) Apparatus for extending a signal according to claim 39, wherein the symmetry point is adjacent the first end of the signal and external thereto.

43. (Original) Apparatus for extending a signal according to claim 39, wherein the signal is a digital signal comprising a plurality of discrete digital samples, the sequence having first and second ends with first and last discrete digital samples at the first and final ends.

44. (Original) Apparatus for extending a signal according to claim 43, wherein the symmetry point is located at the first end of the sequence and has a value at least close to the value of the discrete digital sample that is at the first end of the sequence.

45. (Original) Apparatus for extending a signal according to claim 43, wherein the symmetry point is adjacent the first end of the sequence.

46. (Original) Apparatus for extending a signal according to claim 45, wherein the symmetry point is located external of the first end of the sequence and has a value the same as a value of an adjacent discrete digital sample.

47. (Original) Apparatus for extending a signal according to claim 46, wherein the symmetry point is located external of the first end of the sequence by an amount equal to half of a period between the discrete digital samples in the sequence.

48. (Original) Apparatus for extending a signal according to claim 47, wherein the value of the defined symmetry point is zero.

49. (Original) Apparatus for extending a signal according to claim 39, wherein the signal extension is provided at both ends of the signal of finite length.

50. (Original) Apparatus for extending a signal according to claim 39, wherein the signal includes at least one set of data from the group of data sets including:

image data set;

speech data set;

acoustic data set.

51. (Original) Apparatus for extending a signal according to claim 39, wherein the length of the signal is determined along a horizontal axis of a desired domain in which the signal is available.

52. (Original) Apparatus for extending a signal according to claim 51, wherein the length of the signal is determined in a time domain.

53. (Original) Apparatus for extending a signal according to claim 51, wherein the length of the signal is determined in a frequency domain.

Claims 54-65 have been cancelled.